



East Grinstead
Urban District Council



The
Annual Report
of
The Medical Officer of Health
for
the Year 1972

E A S T G R I N S T E A D
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

THE
A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

FOR THE YEAR

1972

Council Offices,
East Court,
East Grinstead,
Sussex.
Tel. No. East Grinstead 23636

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

JOHN PETRIE

T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(Medical Officer of Health, Uckfield R.D.C.)

Senior Public Health Inspector

²F.A. FREEMAN, A.R.S.H.

Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

R.S.H. Smoke Inspectors Diploma

Additional Public Health Inspector

G. CHAMBERS, Diploma P.H.I.E.B.

Student Public Health Inspector

L.H. COLEMAN

Clerk to the Department

Miss P. JEFFERIES

Shorthand-Typist (Part-time)

Mrs. M. TUTCHER

Rodent Officer

L.R. HALL

EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1972

To The Chairman and Members
of the East Grinstead Urban District Council

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1972.

The Report is prepared as indicated in the Department of Health & Social Security Circular No. 1/73, dated 1st January, 1973.

The Crude Death Rate is 13.5 (the same as for 1971).

The Standardised Death Rate is 9.9, compared with 12.1 for England and Wales. The Standardised Death Rate is obtained by the application of a 'comparability factor' making allowance for the age and sex distribution of the district for comparison with England and Wales as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 10.00, compared with 24.00 for the previous year.

The Birth Rate is 15.1, compared with 15.6 in 1971.

The Standardised Birth Rate is 15.1, compared with 14.8 for England and Wales.

There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough or Measles.

Amongst children under two years of age there was one death from maternal causes, but no deaths from Enteritis.

Four cases of Food poisoning were notified during the year.

Slum Clearance

1.	Number of houses declared unfit	-
(a)	Number dealt with under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957, (individual unfit houses)	-
(b)	Number dealt with under Section 42, Housing Act, 1957, (Clearance Area)	-
2.	Houses in (1) subsequently made fit by their owners	-
3.	Houses previously declared unfit made fit by their owners	-
4.	Number of families rehoused from unfit houses	3
5.	Number of families waiting to be rehoused	-

COUNCIL HOUSING

The following information has been provided by Mrs. O.W. Wren,
Housing Manager:-

Management

The policy of selling Council houses has been continued during the
year and the under-mentioned properties were sold:-

Four bedroomed houses	... ..	1
Three bedroomed houses	... ..	8
Two bedroomed houses	... ..	1

A total of 40 dwellings have now been sold since the commencement of the
scheme.

The new Spring Copse development of 29 flats for elderly citizens
and a Warden was completed and let. The Warden and her husband took up
residence prior to the tenants moving into their flats and they proved a
wonderful help and support to the less able bodied tenants.

The development is very attractive and many visitors have called to
see the flats, common room and various amenities available to the tenants.
Some visitors have come from far afield and the interest shown has given
great satisfaction to the Council and staff.

The new housing estate on the Holtye Road, Quarry Rise and The Weald, comprising 67 houses and flats, was completed and let. With these new properties it was possible to carry out 52 transfers from other houses and flats, thus making the best possible use of all accommodation.

During the year, Packer Close II development for elderly citizens was commenced and should be completed and ready for letting by early 1974. This development comprises 22 two-unit flats plus a three-bedroomed Warden's flat. As with previous developments of this kind, there is a Common Room, Quiet Room, Sun Lounge, Laundry Room, etc. A private architect was employed for this development in order to make the appearance as similar as possible to the Packer Close I development on the opposite side of the road.

With this development it is hoped to carry out transfers which will release under-occupied two and three bedroomed Council houses.

Council property now comprises:-

Bed/sitting room	...	...	...	Flats	72
One bedroom	...	...	...	Flats	152
				Bungalows	7
Two bedroomed (three unit)	...			Flats	104
				Houses	153
				Maisonettes	8
Three bedroomed (four/five persons)	...			Flats	5
				Houses	527
				Maisonettes	31
				Bungalow	1
Four bedroomed	...	...	...	Houses	16
Garages	...	...	...	...	431
Shops	...	...	...	...	5

The Council's Waiting List.

With Local Government re-organisation imminent it was necessary, during the year to overhaul the Waiting List.

Meetings were held by the four Housing Managers of Cuckfield Rural and Cuckfield, Burgess Hill and East Grinstead Urban areas (which will form the new Mid-Sussex District) to discuss and form a common policy on housing, for recommendation to the new District Council when appointed. These joint meetings resulted in an agreed policy to accept on to the Waiting List only applicants who have a proven housing need as listed overleaf:-

1. Persons living in rooms without exclusive use of essential facilities.
2. Persons living in sub-standard caravans.
3. Persons living in overcrowded conditions according to bedroom accommodation based on a standard which assumes a separate bedroom for man and wife and children of different sexes.
4. Persons who have to vacate their home through no fault of their own.
5. Persons acceptable for health reasons.
6. Persons in furnished tenancies.
7. Couples engaged to be married.

It was decided that, until re-organisation actually takes place, the Council will continue to use the existing 'Points' scheme which has always worked so satisfactorily, as a means of assessing housing need, and that recommendations Nos. 1 - 6 should be adopted. Each applicant on the existing waiting list was then carefully considered in relation to this policy.

160 names were removed from the list and letters were sent to these applicants giving the reason for the action taken and giving a right to appeal. The remainder of the applicants were then placed in two separate sections:-

- (a) an active list comprised of those who have an immediate housing need, and
- (b) those living in 'tied' or other accommodation and do not need housing at the present time.

The total number remaining on the Waiting List at the end of the year was 203, and the new policy means that there is now a clear picture of building requirements for the future. The list no longer contains the names of applicants who are living in adequate self-contained accommodation, who are merely desirous of renting a modern Council house.

It is recommended by the joint Housing Managers that under the new Mid-Sussex Authority, tenancies will, in general, be allocated to applicants in order of date of application but at the discretion of the District Housing Officer, although exceptions may be made in appropriate cases. The main object will be to form a flexible scheme.

Of the 203 applicants remaining on the Waiting List, 116 require one/two unit flats, 58 two bedroomed and 29 three bedroomed accommodation. There were 72 applicants added to the list during the year.

Lettings totalled 129 and 96 transfers were effected. At the end of the year there were 102 tenants applying for transfer.

Visiting.

During the year the under-mentioned work was carried out:-

Visits following new tenancies	130
Routine inspection of Council houses	109
Inspections relating to internal decoration for elderly/handicapped, etc. tenants	100
Enquiries re lodgers	38
Visits to new applicants on the Waiting List ...	69
Revisits to applicants on change of circumstances	153
Visits in connection with transfers and exchanges	110
Visits in connection with special problems ...	105
Visits regarding slum clearance	6
Enquiries re garage lettings	300
Interviews and enquiries in the office	3,451

Repairs and Maintenance.

The following work was carried out during the year:-

Maintenance orders issued	2,500
Orders carried out	2,000
Internal decoration carried out in houses/flats	40
External decoration carried out in houses/flats	150

Improvements to Council Properties.

Installation of sink units on the Brooklands Estate	50
Houses electrically rewired and additional power points provided on the Stonequarry Estate	80
Work commenced on providing French doors to dining/living room (Stonequarry Estate)	80

WELFARE

The Voluntary Laundry continued to be of service to the elderly, and 27 volunteers helped with the washing and ironing. The collecting and delivering was mainly organised by members of Round Table and Rotary on a rota system, with the assistance of four outside volunteers. More helpers are always needed to enable this service to continue.

Greenstede Club: This Club still has a full membership of 50, and during the year members enjoyed a very pleasant outing to Bexhill, a Garden Party, and the usual Christmas and Birthday parties.

The 'Over Sixties' Club now has a membership of 102 and they meet every Wednesday afternoon. During the summer members enjoyed a day's outing to Worthing and a 'Blossom Tour'. At their annual Birthday Party they celebrated their 26th year, and in December they enjoyed their usual Xmas Dinner and entertainment.

The Rotary Club continues to organise the Work Centre at St. Leonard's House, and an average of four men and five women attend five mornings a week. The Rotary Christmas Tree collection amounted to £879.00, and this was distributed by way of money vouchers or gifts to the elderly people in the town.

The Round Table Association, in conjunction with the Rotary Club, organised the annual Donkey Derby which took place in June. Some of the money raised enables a number of elderly people to have a week's holiday at Eastbourne. At Christmas a shopping expedition to Croydon was arranged for the elderly and handicapped, and some of the shops remained open late in order to cater for wheelchairs, etc.

The Women's Royal Voluntary Service: The Meals-on-Wheels and Luncheon Club served 7,201 meals and a special Christmas dinner was served to 78 elderly people. These meals do ensure that the recipients have at least two good hot meals per week which are cooked by W.R.V.S. staff. This work receives financial assistance from the East Grinstead Urban District Council.

(a) Welfare Foods issued:-

Full cream milk	...	...	...	...	1,402
Vitamin Drops	...	...	...	...	820
Vitamin Tablets	...	...	...	...	448
Bottles of orange juice	...	...	...	...	1,023

(b) Clothing issued to 114 families (188 people).

(c) Home Helps were provided for 100 homes.

(d) Visitors and voluntary clerical help were provided for Queen Victoria Hospital.

(e) Five families from East Grinstead spent successful holidays at the W.R.V.S. caravans at Pevensy Bay.

- (f) Social training was given to 14 people willing to make themselves available in emergencies, and all the necessary organisation is now available to provide 1,000 meals on demand.
- (g) In conjunction with the Old People's Welfare Committee and the Citizens' Advice Bureau, a Chiropody Service is provided for Pensioners.

Citizens' Advice Bureau: With the exception of the war years, enquiries for the year were the highest ever, being 4,834, an increase on the previous year of 572.

The upward trend in the volume of work is due partly to new Government legislation, including the Industrial Relations Act, the setting up of Crown Courts, re-organization of the Social Services and changes in Social Security Benefits. Enquiries included 859 from elderly folk.

Family and personal enquiries were again high, and numbered 688. Accommodation problems and housing queries were 719, while those seeking information on education numbered 275.

Consumer advice was given to 155 enquirers, and those persons needing help on employment, etc. totalled 291. Local and national information enquiries over the year numbered 1,654.

Training of staff in order to cope with the complexity of everyday life has had to be intensive, and the amount of hours given by the voluntary staff at the Bureau on training alone has been exceptionally high.

The Bureau is particularly 'geared' to make available to the individual, accurate and skilled advice, to explain legislation, and to help the citizen to benefit from, and to use wisely the services provided by the State, and in general to provide counsel to those persons in the many difficulties which beset them in an increasingly complex situation.

Marriage Guidance: East Grinstead Marriage Guidance Council, together with branches at Crawley and Horsham, form the North Sussex Marriage Guidance Council. It offers a confidential counselling service to those seeking help for marriage and family problems. Clients are seen by appointment only, at a room in Westminster Bank Chambers, London Road.

In 1972 two Counsellors, joined by a third in September, together gave a total of 301 one-hour interviews. Sixty children under 16 years of age were involved.

The Council offers an Education Service, not so widely known perhaps, which can be carried out in Schools, Youth Clubs, Parent-Teacher Associations, Nurses-in-Training and other like groups. A number of talks on the "Work of Marriage Guidance" have been given to W.I. Groups, Young Wives and other interested groups. A small local Committee with representation on the North Sussex Executive Committee, is concerned with such matters as the premises, publicity, fund raising, and support for the Counsellors.

Marriage Guidance is a voluntary organisation and registered charity, dependent on grants by Local Councils and private donations. Counsellors and members of the local Committee have continued their efforts for fund raising during the year.

SOCIAL WELFARE LUNCH TIME SESSIONS

With the object of fostering friendly acquaintance, and the interchange of information among those engaged in Social Welfare work, the East Grinstead Urban District Council sponsors a regular monthly meeting at East Court. Invitations are sent to professional and voluntary workers, Doctors, Nurses, Clergymen and Head Teachers.

The meetings have been held regularly on the first Friday of the month, and have been well attended. Each organisation represented has produced an excellent display of its activities and these have been of great value to everyone present, promoting a better understanding of the services available.

Speakers at the meetings have included:-

Mr. Leach	Weights & Measures
Miss J. Leslie	Senior Citizens Day Club
Mr. Gladman	Ambulance Service
Mr. Fawcett	Pollution & Conservation of water supply
Mr. Borley	Survey on the Aged
Mr. H.V. Owen	Fair deal for Rents
Mr. T. Greenwood	Fire Prevention
Mr. H.C. Jones	Local Government Re-organisation
Mr. D. Jones	Maladjusted Children
Miss F. Wells	Recent Changes in the Health Services
Dr. Lomax Simpson	"Messenger House Trust"

Further talks are being arranged for the year 1973.

JOHN PETRIE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Birth Rate per 1000 population	15.10
Comparability Factor	1.00
Standardised Birth Rate	15.10

Rate per 1000 of the Total Births	7.00
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<u>INFANTILE MORTALITY:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths of Infants under the age of 1 week	2	-	2
Deaths of Infants under the age of 4 weeks	3	-	3
Deaths of Infants under the age of 1 year	3	-	3

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE EAST GRINSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	6	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	7	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	5	8
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	-	4
Other Endocrine, etc. diseases	-	1
Anaemias	1	1
Mental Disorders	1	7
Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	3
Hypertensive Disease	2	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	32	22
Other forms of Heart Disease	5	7
Cerebrovascular Disease	11	30
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	12
Influenza	1	1
Pneumonia	6	14
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	3
Peptic Ulcer	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Congenital Anomalies	1	-
Birth Injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	5	13
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-
All other Accidents	-	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	-
All other external causes	-	1

TOTAL ALL CAUSES

112

148

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 4 weeks	3	-	3
4 weeks and under 1 year	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-
5 - 14 "	-	-	-
15 - 24 "	3	1	4
25 - 34 "	-	-	-
35 - 44 "	-	1	1
45 - 54 "	6	3	9
55 - 64 "	14	10	24
65 - 74 "	29	22	51
75 and over	57	111	168
	<hr/> 112 <hr/>	<hr/> 148 <hr/>	<hr/> 260 <hr/>

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1957 - 1972

Year	Estimated Population	Number of Births						Birth Rate	Number of Deaths			Death Rate	Infant Deaths			Infant Death Rate	Natural Increase of Births over Deaths
		Legitimate			Illegitimate				M	F	Total		M	F	Total		
		M	F	Total	M	F	Total										
1957	13,340	108	100	208	3	2	5	16.72	93	106	199	14.92	1	1	2	9.39	14
1958	13,390	118	89	207	4	5	9	15.48	95	97	192	13.76	-	-	-	-	24
1959	14,370	135	106	241	3	2	5	16.42	89	104	193	13.43	2	1	3	12.2	53
1960	14,900	132	113	245	3	6	9	17.05	86	103	189	12.68	3	-	3	11.81	65
1961	15,540	123	118	241	5	2	7	15.9	97	96	193	12.42	2	2	4	16.1	55
1962	15,860	122	114	236	2	5	7	15.51	101	134	235	14.81	1	2	3	12.34	8
1963	15,930	136	144	280	11	4	15	18.52	107	144	251	15.76	1	5	6	20.34	44
1964	16,390	145	121	266	12	8	20	17.45	89	114	203	12.39	4	2	6	20.98	83
1965	16,610	155	131	286	13	5	18	18.3	105	121	226	13.6	3	1	4	13.15	78
1966	17,020	149	131	280	5	8	13	17.21	92	104	196	11.51	2	-	2	6.08	97
1967	17,110	148	136	284	9	9	18	17.06	105	105	210	12.27	-	3	3	9.93	92
1968	17,340	131	119	250	8	11	19	15.5	134	106	240	13.8	6	3	9	14.48	29
1969	17,490	161	117	278	6	8	14	16.7	101	128	229	13.1	4	-	4	13.69	63
1970	17,790	143	136	279	6	9	15	16.5	107	132	239	13.4	2	3	5	17.00	55
1971	18,850	132	152	284	7	4	11	15.6	120	135	255	13.5	4	3	7	24.00	40
1972	19,240	146	138	284	2	5	7	15.1	112	148	260	13.5	3	-	3	10.00	31

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year 1972:-

DISEASE	Cases Notified	Cases to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	4	-	-
Dysentery	9	-	-
Scabies	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUPS										
DISEASE	0	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	4
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	4
Dysentery	-	-	2	1	1	4	-	1	-	9
Scabies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	3	1	3	6	1	1	3	18

Summary of New Cases and Mortality during the years 1957-1972.

(16)

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH,
MEASLES, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS

For children born between 1.1.65 and 31.12.72.

<u>Type Given</u>	<u>Number</u>
Primary Triple	266
Primary Polio	271
Polio 1st Booster	466
Smallpox	54
Smallpox 1st Booster	6
Measles	465
Diphtheria/Tetanus 1st Booster	467

HOUSING

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year 1972.
 - (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects 108
 - (b) Number of inspections and re-inspections 830
 - (c) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil
 - (d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 91

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without the Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 35

3. Unfit Houses
 - (a) Number of Demolition Orders made Nil
 - (b) Number of Closing Orders made Nil
 - (c) Number of Undertakings accepted Nil

4. Housing Act, 1957, Part IV - OVERCROWDING.

No new cases of overcrowding were received during the year.

5. Number of new houses erected during the year 1972.
 - (a) State aided:-
 - By Local Authority 98
 - By private enterprise (Public Utility Societies, etc.) -
 - (b) Without State aid 141

6. Housing Act, 1969 - Qualification Certificates
 - (a) Number of applications received during the year 14
 - (b) Number of Qualification Certificates issued ... 20
 - (c) Number of applications withdrawn -
 - (d) Number of refusals 2

SLUMS AND OLDER HOUSING - AN OVERALL STRATEGY

Properties existing on 31st December, 1972:-

Private Dwellings	5,281
Local Authority Dwellings ...	993
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	6,274
	<hr/>

Properties existing on 31st March, 1948:-

Private Dwellings	2,723
Local Authority Dwellings ...	293
	<hr/>
	3,016
	<hr/>

Private dwellings demolished since 1948	105
Number of Improvement Grants approved to date	571

UNFIT DWELLINGS

Part 2, Section 4, of the Housing Act, 1957, as amended, provides a definition of a standard of fitness, which states as follows:-

In determining for any of the purposes of this Act whether a house is unfit for human habitation, regard shall be had to its condition in respect of the following matters, that is to say -

- (a) repair;
- (b) stability;
- (c) freedom from damp;
- (d) natural lighting;
- (e) ventilation;
- (f) water supply;
- (g) drainage and sanitary conveniences;
- (h) facilities for preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water;

and the house shall be deemed to be unfit for human habitation if, and only if, it is so far defective in one or more of the said matters that it is not reasonably suitable for occupation in that condition.

This table shows the present state of the town's stock of private houses:-

<u>Unfit Dwellings</u>	<u>Private Dwellings</u>
1. In areas already declared under Part III, Housing Act, 1957	4
2. In other areas to be declared under Part III, Housing Act, 1957	Nil
3. Not in Part III areas	4
4. TOTAL of Unfit Dwellings (Items 1, 2 and 3) ...	8

Dwellings not Unfit

5. Up to 12 point standard	4,748
6. Capable of improvements to 12 point standard ...	525
7. Not capable of improvement to 12 point standard	Nil
TOTAL Dwellings in the Area (Items 4, 5, 6 and 7)	5,281

DETAILS OF 12 POINT STANDARD

The Act requires that a dwelling must, where practicable, conform to the following 12 point standard:-

- (1) Be in a good state of repair and substantially free from damp.
- (2) Have each room properly lighted and ventilated.
- (3) Have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on inside the dwelling.
- (4) Be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes.
- (5) Have an internal water closet if practicable; otherwise a readily accessible outside water closet.
- (6) Have a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom.
- (7) Be provided with a sink and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water.
- (8) Have a proper drainage system.
- (9) Be provided in each room with adequate points for gas or electric lighting (where reasonably available).
- (10) Be provided with adequate facilities for heating.
- (11) Have proper provision for the storing, preparing and cooking of food.
- (12) Have proper provision for the storage of fuel (where required).

TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS AUTHORISED SINCE 1951

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT APPROVED</u>	<u>NUMBER OF APPROVALS</u>	
1951	£72.50	1	
1954	£400.00	2	
1955	£3,711.775	18	
1956	£1,898.00	9	
1957	£3,661.00	17	
1958	£2,509.00	11	
	<u>IMPROVEMENT</u>	<u>STANDARD</u>	
1959	£7,400.00	£386.00	31
1960	£2,121.00	£1,284.00	22
1961	£2,863.00	£775.00	18
1962	£1,998.84	£1,387.14	19
1963	£2,018.775	£1,561.99	29
1964	£1,605.375	£2,127.22	22
1965	£2,739.66	£1,140.86	22
1966	£2,145.325	£1,016.68	20
1967	£2,121.795	£462.375	8
1968	£10,366.44	£1,219.29	31
1969	£15,286.52	£1,254.77	46
1970	£14,174.58	£420.44	33
1971	£25,045.16	£1,322.23	79
1972	£28,211.355	£860.00	85

45 Approvals have not been proceeded with.

Total Expenditure = £145,568.095.

HOUSE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The main provisions of the Housing Act, 1969, can be stated. The Amendment to the Act in 1971 does not apply in this area.

In addition to the provision of standard amenities to dwelling-houses, certain structural repairs are now eligible for grant aid. The aim is to extend the useful habitable life of structurally sound but aged and dilapidated properties, and so prevent their sliding further into the category of slum clearance dwellings.

The statute has made three types of grant available:-

(a) IMPROVEMENT GRANT

Maximum usually £1,000 (£1,200 in special circumstances).

(b) STANDARD GRANT

Maximum usually £200 (£450 in special circumstances).

(c) SPECIAL GRANT

Maximum £200.

The Act also provides for the decontrol of houses provided with standard amenities.

The grant for essential repairs cannot, in any circumstances, exceed the amount of grant aid for the improvement.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

EIGHTY-NINE applications for IMPROVEMENT GRANTS and TWO applications for STANDARD GRANTS were received and dealt with during the year.

	<u>IMPROVEMENT</u>			<u>STANDARD</u>		
	The Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, Part II, and the Housing Act, 1969.			The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, Part II, and the Housing Act, 1969.		
	Vacant	Owner Occupied	Tenant (Grant with Qual. Cert.)	Vacant	Owner Occupied	Tenant (Grant with Qual. Cert.)
Enquiries made	5	103	3	-	2	-
Approval refused by tenant	-	-	-	-	-	-
Applications not approved by Council	1	3	-	-	-	-
Applications approved and not proceeded with	2	-	-	-	-	-
Applications approved and proceeded with	7	61	15	-	1	1
Completed by 31.12.72.	4	25	4	-	1	1
Total of grants approved and proceeded with	£5,612.195	£17,129.07	£5,470.09	£410.00	£450.00	-
Approved previously and completed in 1972.	4	30	9	-	1	2

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

By the end of 1972, thirty-five houses in the East Grinstead area were known to be in multiple occupation controlling 286 individuals.

In 1971 the Council made thirty-seven 'Directions' controlling 299 individuals, and two of these 'Directions' were later revoked.

The previous definition of a house in multiple occupation, i.e. a house which, or a part of which, is let in lodgings or which is occupied by members of more than one family, has been amended by the Housing Act, 1969, to read "a house which, or a part of which is occupied by persons who do not form a single household".

A 'Direction' is an order made by the Council which limits the number of individuals who should occupy a house in multiple occupation.

SANITARY SUPERVISION

Housing Inspections

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Inspections made under Housing Acts	1101	749
Inspections made under Public Health Acts ...	151	161
Housing Act - Improvement Grants	172	117
Qualification Certificates ...	37	23

Other Inspections

Meat Shops and Slaughterhouses	272	200
Bakehouses	1	1
Fish Shops	10	1
Public Houses and Hotels	30	9
Restaurants	52	20
Clubs	11	2
Other Food Premises	194	96
Market Stalls	1129	1235
Delivery Vehicles	75	7
Public Health Acts (other than houses) ...	241	305
Factory Acts (not included in other totals)	93	36
Infectious Diseases	128	768
Noise Abatement	37	78
Clean Air Act	198	220
Water Supplies	22	20
Petroleum Acts	129	212
Inspections made under Pest Destruction Acts	2220	2380
Other Miscellaneous Inspections	594	596
Complaints	220	161

WATER SUPPLY

Water for the greater part of East Grinstead is supplied by the Mid-Sussex Water Company. A few houses on the Northern boundary at Felbridge are supplied by the East Surrey Water Company.

The Mid-Sussex Water Company have deep wells at Hackenden and Forest Row, and a river intake at Barcombe Works, near Lewes. An additional supply is obtained from the reservoir of the Weir Wood Water Board. Placelands deep bore-hole is also available as an additional booster for summer supplies.

The raw water is aerated, subjected to sedimentation, mechanical filtration, automatic superchlorination, and finally, before going into supply, to dechlorination to give a free residual of 0.1 p.p.m. of chlorine. A consistently safe and palatable water supply is thus assured.

Samples of water from each supply are regularly submitted to the Analytical Laboratory, Lewes, by the Mid-Sussex Water Company, for chemical and bacteriological examination. The water is consistently of excellent organic quality and safe for drinking purposes.

It was not necessary to restrict the supply at any time throughout the year.

Approximately 6,376 dwelling-houses have a piped water supply.

INSPECTION OF FOOD

During the year, 1570 visits were made to food premises, and below are details of the foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:-

MUTTON: 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ livers Fluke.
 Part liver Adhesions.
 1 pr. lungs Abscessed.

PORK: 17 hearts Pericarditis.
 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ prs. lungs Pleurisy
 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ prs. lungs Pleurisy and Pneumonia.
 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ prs. lungs Pneumonia.
 16 heads Tuberculosis.
 1 Hindquarter Scirrhus Cord.
 18 lb. leg and part loin Abscessed.

TINNED AND OTHER FOOD:

1,543 pkts. of frozen food	Decomposed
132 lbs. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ozs. beef, lamb, pork, steak, etc.	"
104 lbs. pork	Abscessed
42 tins of fruit	Blown
6 tins of chicken	"
2 x 4 oz. cartons cheese	Mouldy

MILK

The following Dealers' Licences authorising the use of special designation were in force during the year 1972:-

<u>Special Designation</u>	<u>Number of Licences</u>
Pasteurised	22
Sterilised	1
Untreated	2
Ultra High Temperature	8

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

Section 109 gives authority with few exceptions, mainly milk and milk products, for local authorities who are not Food & Drugs Authorities to exercise powers of the Food & Drugs Authority in respect of the institution of legal proceedings.

The County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority, and their Weights & Measures Inspectors have been appointed as Authorised Officers. Mr. Leach (Weights & Measures Inspector) has provided the following information:-

Food & Drugs Samples taken during 1972.

Informal samples of the items listed below were taken during the year under the Food & Drugs Act:-

- 19 milk samples.
- Chicken and Leek Soup.
- Baby Food.
- Lemon Barley Water.
- Fruit Juice.
- Fish Cakes.
- Dried Vegetables.
- Beefburgers.
- Iced Lolly.
- Rose Hip Tablets.
- Wheat Germ Oil Tablets.

All were found to comply with the statutory requirements.

In addition, samples were also taken of stoned olives in brine, chicken vegetable soup, and stewed steak pie filling. The descriptions given on the labels of these items were found to be not entirely correct, i.e. more vegetable than chicken in the chicken vegetable soup, and the manufacturers were notified accordingly.

CLEAN FOOD SUPERVISION

1. Number of Food Premises in the area by type of business:-

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Catering Establishments:								
Boarding Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Cafes and Teashops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factory and Staff Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hostels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Public Houses - Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Serving Meals	-	3						
Serving Snacks	-	6						
Residential Institutions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Schools, Technical Colleges, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fish Shops (Wet and Dried)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Milk Depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Wayside Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wine Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

2. Number of Food Premises by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, or under Local Acts, and the number of Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959:-

Sale of Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Preparation of Potted Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Preparation of Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Preparation of Pressed Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Preparation of Pickled Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Preparation of Preserved Food including							
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

3. Number of Inspections and visits to Registered Food Premises - 188.

CARCASES OF ANIMALS INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	11	863	410
Number inspected	11	863	410
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis:</u>			
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	7	43
Percentage of the number inspected infected with diseases other than T.B.	-	0.81%	10.48%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>			
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	16
Percentage of the number inspected infected with Tuberculosis	-	-	3.95%

POULTRY INSPECTIONS

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| (1) | Number of poultry processing premises | 6 |
| (2) | Number of visits to premises | 26 |
| (3) | Total number of birds processed during
the year | 17,573 |
| (4) | Types of birds processed:- | |
| | Turkeys 2,065 | |
| | Geese 67 | |
| | Culls 1,588 | |
| | Capon's 13,811 | |
| | Ducklings 42 | |
| (5) | Percentage rejected as unfit | 1.01% |
| (6) | 82 lbs. condemned as unfit for human consumption. | |
| (7) | Comments on poultry processing and inspection:- | |

Most of the poultry processing is carried on in five shop premises. The birds are previously hand-picked by owners and, consequently, very few are unfit for human consumption.

The changing scene in the poultry industry has led to the majority of birds being "oven-ready", thus requiring little or no processing.

It is not practical with present legislation to ensure 100% inspection in the widely separated poultry processing establishments in this area, but agreement has been reached with the owners to notify this Department should any reasonable doubt arise as to the fitness for human consumption of the poultry being processed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	Number of premises registered during year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a General Inspection during the year
Offices	10	109	7
Retail Shops	12	164	11
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	11	-
Catering Establishments open to public, Canteens	2	24	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	24	308	18

PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	1101
Retail Shops	1090
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	131
Catering Establishments open to the public	186
Canteens	24
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	2532
Total Males	1109
Total Females	1423

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The factories on the Register of the Local Authority are as follows:-

	<u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>Non-Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>Total</u>
Agricultural Engineers	1	-	1
Automatic Machines	1	-	1
Bakeries	2	-	2
Builders	-	1	1
Chemical Compounds	1	-	1
Civil Engineering Contractors	1	-	1
Cloth Measuring Warehouse	1	-	1
Coffin Makers	1	-	1
Commercial Artists	1	-	1
Cosmetics	2	-	2
Dyers & Cleaners	3	-	3
Electric Lamps	1	-	1
Electrical Engineers	1	-	1
Electronic Equipment	2	-	2
French Polishing	-	1	1
Joinery	7	-	7
Laundries	5	-	5
Light Engineering	16	-	16
Manufacturing Chemists	2	-	2
Mirror Silvering	1	-	1
Motor Repairers	15	-	15
Pharmaceuticals	1	-	1
Photography	1	-	1
Plastic Binder Manufacturers	1	-	1
Plastic Surgical Instruments	1	-	1
Polythene Bag Manufacturers	1	-	1
Pottery	1	-	1
Precision Engineering	2	-	2
Printers	4	-	4
Radio & T.V. Repairers	1	1	2
Sawmills	1	-	1
Sheet Metal Manufacturers	2	-	2
Shoe Repairers	3	-	3
Signwriters	2	-	2
Slaughterhouses	1	-	1
Smithies	1	-	1
Snow Clearing Equipment	1	-	1

C/Fwd.

88

3

91

	<u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>Non-Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>Total</u>
B/Fwd.	88	3	91
Spectacle Frames	1	-	1
Stone Masons	2	-	2
Swimming Pool Fittings	1	-	1
Tailoring	1	1	2
Tool Makers	1	-	1
Transformers & Components	1	-	1
Tyre Vulcanising	1	-	1
Upholstery & Soft Furnishings	2	1	3
Warm Air Heating Equipment	2	-	2
Woodcrafts	2	-	2
	102	5	107

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part VIII of the Act, Outwork
(Sections 133 and 134)

	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list req'd by Sec.133 (1) (c)	No. of Cases of default in sending Lists to Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel: Making, etc.	13	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and Washing	Nil	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

During the year 36 visits were made under the Factories Act, 1961.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register	Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	5	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	102	36	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	107	36	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	REFERRED		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL

	Rats	Mice	Total
Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	166	39	205
Number of such properties found to be infested	90	37	127
Number of properties found to be infested as a result of systematic survey	37	10	47
Total number of properties infested ...	127	47	174
Infestations dealt with by Council ...	123	42	165
Infestations dealt with by Occupier following instructions given by Rodent Officer	4	5	9

The Council employ one full-time Rodent Officer on Pest Destruction.

During the year ended 31st December, 1972, 2219 visits were made under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and of these 721 were systematic surveys.

The Rodent Officer also dealt with 25 wasps nests and 62 complaints of other pests including moles, squirrels, voles, cluster flies, red ants, black ants, fleas, clover mites, cockroaches, adders, grass snakes, slugs, foxes, mosquitoes, silverfish, wild bees, honey bees, bats, sparrows, pigeons, starlings and rabbits.

Regular inspections have been made at Eden Vale, Sunnyside and Ashurstwood Sewage Disposal Works, the refuse tips, housing estates and other Council properties. Once again a 10% test of sewers was completed in the Spring, in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' instructions, and the test revealed no infestation.

A nominal charge for rodent and pest destruction is made to householders. Business premises are charged with the actual cost of materials and labour. No charge is made for subsequent inspection to ensure that the premises remain free from rats and mice.

The Council is prepared to enter into an annual contract to maintain business premises free from vermin.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This work is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department.

House refuse is collected weekly. Large items of household refuse are collected every Friday, if a request is made to the Surveyor's Department, Telephone No. East Grinstead 23636, Ext. 51. There is no charge made for this service.

Builders' or garden refuse is not collected, but this may be taken to the Council's Tip and disposed of free of charge. Further details may be obtained from the Surveyor's Department at the above extension.

Trade Refuse is collected at the request of the trader concerned, and a charge of 10p. per sack on all sacks in excess of two per week is made. A collection is also made of trade waste paper, cardboard, etc., again by request. Sacks are supplied by the Council to the trader and are emptied at a charge of 10p. each, including the first sack.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping in a disused railway cutting at High Grove. Before being covered, newly tipped refuse is treated with Malathion insecticide to prevent breeding of flies.

Frequent inspections of the tip are made to ascertain possible nuisance by rodents and flies.

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

44 premises were licensed to store petroleum spirit, and 212 visits were made under the Acts by the Public Health Inspectors.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The services of the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, (Tel. No. 63506), are available to this department and to Medical Practitioners in the district for the investigation of infectious disease.

The Laboratory is in a position to accept specimens (faeces, sputa, throat swabs, etc.) both for the diagnosis of individual cases, and for the investigation of outbreaks (detection of carriers, reservoirs of infection, mode of spread, etc.). Specimens should reach the laboratory by 4.30 p.m. on weekdays, by 12.30 p.m. on Saturdays, and by 11.30 a.m. on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Containers may be obtained from the laboratory or from this department, and specimens may be sent to the laboratory via the Southdown Motor Bus Company. Collections are made at the Brighton terminus at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. (Mondays - Fridays), and at 12.30 p.m. on Saturdays. No collections are made on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Specimens for the Bacteriologist may be left at the Public Health Department, East Court, East Grinstead, before 12.30 p.m., and will be placed on a 'bus in time to reach Brighton for the 4 p.m. collection.

The Laboratory is open between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 12 noon on every day of the year, including Sundays and Public Holidays. Specimens which are so urgent that they have to be collected on those days, can be accepted at the Laboratory between 10 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

Specimens which are received at the Brighton terminus after the last daily collection has been made, are not picked up until the following day, unless prior notification is received at the Laboratory that an urgent specimen is on its way which may not, or will not, arrive in Brighton in time for the normal collection. In cases of extreme urgency arising after Laboratory hours, special arrangements can be made by telephoning Mr. D. McElborough, Laboratory Technician, at Brighton 682686.

The following prophylactic is held at the Laboratory for issue free of charge to Medical Practitioners:-

Gamma Globulin

Supplies are restricted, and it is available only by consultation with the Laboratory.

Other types of vaccine, anti-toxins and serums are not held, but information regarding them may be obtained from the Director.

VACCINES

A stock of prophylactics against the following diseases is maintained in the Pathological Laboratory, Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead, and may be obtained by General Practitioners, free of charge, on application to the Pathologist:-

Measles

Rubella

Tetanus

Diphtheria/Tetanus

Poliomyelitis

Smallpox

Whooping Cough)	
Diphtheria	)	Triple Antigen
Tetanus)	

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION

During the year, 681 International Certificates of Vaccination against Smallpox and Cholera were authenticated by the Health Department. A further 309 were authenticated at the Queen Victoria Hospital.

EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL WELFARE CENTRES

The following table shows the Clinics held at the East Sussex County Council's Welfare Centre, Moat View, Moat Road, East Grinstead:-

<u>CLINICS</u>		<u>DAYS AND TIMES</u>
INFANT WELFARE	...	Every Tuesday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
DENTAL CLINIC		
Mothers and children under 5 years	...	By appointment with the Dentist.
ANTE-NATAL		
Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes	...	Every Monday and Thursday afternoon at 2.15 p.m.
Cuckfield Hospital Patients	...	Second and fourth Wednesday every month at 2 p.m. By appointment.
MOTHERS' CLUB	...	First and third Wednesday every month at 2.30 p.m.
CHILD GUIDANCE	...	Fridays - by appointment.
SPEECH THERAPY	...	By appointment with the Speech Therapist - Tel. No. E.G. 25513. A small Play Group is also held on Tuesday mornings.
FAMILY PLANNING	...	First Monday morning and first, third and fifth Friday morning of every month - 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, and every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. By appointment.
CYTOLOGY CLINIC	...	By appointment. (Morning or evening appointments arranged).

AT QUEEN VICTORIA HOSPITAL

CHEST CLINIC	...	Every Thursday - 2 p.m.
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AT ST. DUNSTAN'S HALL, MAYPOLE ROAD, ASHURST WOOD.

CHILD HEALTH CLINIC	...	Fourth Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m.
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MEDICAL LOAN DEPOT

Mrs. E.C. Draper,
46 Portland Road, East Grinstead.
(Tel. No. E.G.21984)

Pre-school medicals are now carried out at Moat Road Clinic during school holidays (by appointment).

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS

Kent & Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Men: Tuesday - 10.15 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.

Women: Tuesday - 9.15 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.

Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, Sussex.

Men: Monday 3.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. - 12 noon

Thursday 2.00 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Women: Tuesday 3.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.

10.00 a.m. - 12 noon

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service in East Grinstead is as follows:-

Number of Ambulances	...	Three
Ambulance Station	...	East Court, East Grinstead.
Telephone Number	...	Lewes 4307
Area served	...	East Grinstead Forest Row Hartfield West Hoathly Worth

A day and night service is available for the conveyance of patients from within the County of East Sussex who are unfit to travel either by public transport or car. Calls are accepted from doctors, midwives and hospitals in the area. Cases of accident or sudden emergency are the only calls accepted from members of the public.

The ambulances are now operated by the East Sussex County Council, who took them over from the British Red Cross Society in April, 1966.

Cases of infectious disease are removed to isolation hospital in the ambulances, which are then disinfected before returning to normal service.

Patients able to travel by car are conveyed on calls from doctors, midwives or hospitals, by Hospital Car Service. Details of this service are given below:-

HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE

Area Transport Officer	.....	Mrs. J.E. Faithful, East Court, East Grinstead.
Telephone Number	.....	East Grinstead 21318
Area served	.....	East Grinstead Urban District Uckfield Rural District Cuckfield Rural District (Northern half)
Office Hours	.....	Mondays to Fridays inclusive: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
